

Jsr

HAK, SCOWCROFT, LL

FBIS 13

POST CORRESPONDENT REPORTS ISRAELI PROPOSALS, CABINET DISCORD

IA210645 THE JERUSALEM POST IN ENGLISH 21 JULY 75 P 1 TA

(BY JERUSALEM POST DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT DAVID LANDAU)

(TEXT) AMERICAN TECHNICIANS WOULD MAN FOUR SURVEILLANCE STATIONS IN THE SINAI PASSES AREA--IN ADDITION TO THE TWO TO BE MANNED (ONE EACH) BY ISRAEL AND EGYPT--UNDER ISRAEL'S LATEST INTERIM SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS. THE UNITED STATES ITSELF HAS ALREADY AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO THIS IDEA, IT WAS RELIABLY LEARNED YESTERDAY.

THE CABINET SAT LATE INTO LAST NIGHT DISCUSSING THE STAGE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, AND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF CAIRO'S REFUSAL TO RENEW THE UNEF MANDATE.

FOREIGN MINISTER YIGAL ALLON HAD TOLD THE MINISTERS IN AN EARLIER CABINET SESSION YESTERDAY MORNING THAT ISRAEL WAS PURSUING THE NEGOTIATIONS WITHOUT REGARD FOR THE NEW COMPLICATION POSED BY THE MANDATE RENEWAL.

THE GENERAL FEELING AMONG INFORMED SOURCES WAS THAT THE RECENT PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WAS BEING MAINTAINED AND THAT THE CHANCES OF A SETTLEMENT LOOKED FAIRLY BRIGHT. AT THE SAME TIME, THESE SOURCES DISMISSED REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON THAT THE SETTLEMENT WAS "AS GOOD AS IN THE BAG." EGYPT WAS STILL DUE TO RESPOND TO ISRAEL'S LATEST PROPOSALS, AND, WHILE ISRAEL HOPED FOR A BROADLY POSITIVE RESPONSE, THERE WOULD DOUBTLESS STILL BE WEIGHTY ISSUES ON NEGOTIATE, BOTH WITH EGYPT AND ON THE BILATERAL ISRAEL-U.S. PLANE.

IT WAS STILL UNCLEAR, MOREOVER, HOW IF AT ALL THE SECURITY COUNCIL WOULD BE ABLE TO RESOLVE THE UNEF MANDATE CONUNDRUM AND TO WHAT EXTENT THIS MIGHT YET IMPEDE THE PROGRESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

THE LATEST ISRAELI PROPOSALS ARE SEEN BY OBSERVERS AT THE PRODUCT OF A COMPROMISE WHICH EMERGED FROM WITHIN THE ISRAELI NEGOTIATING TEAM AFTER LONG AND SOMETIMES DISHARMONIOUS DISCUSSION.

MUCH OF THE DISCORD CENTERS ON THE ISRAELI LINE OF WITHDRAWAL NORTH OF THE PASSES, TO THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST. PRIME MINISTER RABIN AND DEFENSE MINISTER PERES FOUND THEMSELVES REPEATEDLY AT ODDS OVER THIS KEY LINE UPON WHICH RESTS, TO A LARGE EXTENT, THE DEFENSE OF THE AIR BASE AT REFDIM.

MR PERES IS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE FELT THAT THE PREMIER, IN HIS MEETINGS WITH MESSRS. FORD AND KISSINGER IN WASHINGTON LAST MONTH AND WITH DR KISSINGER AGAIN IN GERMANY THIS MONTH, HAD INDICATED GREATER ISRAELI CONCESSIONS IN THE NORTH THAN THE NEGOTIATING TEAM HAD IN FACT AUTHORIZED.

FOLLOWING THE PREMIER'S WASHINGTON MEETING, ISRAEL SENT A "REVISED" MAP TO DR KISSINGER WHICH STOOD FIRM ON THE JIDDI-ROMANI LINE. IN BONN, HOWEVER, DR. KISSINGER SAID HE DOUBTED IF EGYPT WOULD AGREE TO THIS AND AGAIN PRESSED FOR FURTHER ISRAELI CONCESSIONS IN THE NORTH.

MR. PERES, IT IS UNDERSTOOD, WAS ALSO DISSATISFIED WITH THE POSITION SUBMITTED BY THE PREMIER ON THE GULF OF SUEZ COAST AREA, WHERE MR. RABIN OFFERED EGYPT A WIDER SWATHE OF LAND THAN THE DEFENSE MINISTER WOULD HAVE THOUGHT PRUDENT.

MR. PERES IS ALSO UNDERSTOOD TO FEEL THAT THE CONCESSIONS OFFERED ON THE PASSES THEMSELVES WERE TOO FAR--REACHING. HOWEVER HE BELIEVES THEY CAN BE "COMPENSATED" FOR BY A DIRECT AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT, IN THE MANNING OF THE SURVEILLANCE STATIONS.

UNDER ISRAEL'S PROPOSALS, THE AMERICAN CONTINGENT OF TRAINED TECHNICIANS WOULD ALSO SUPERVISE THE EXISTING ISRAELI SUSURVEILLANCE FACILITY AT UMM HASHIBA, WHICH WOULD REMAIN IN ISRAEL'S HANDS, AS WELL AS AN EGYPTIAN FACILITY TO BE LOCATED AT THE EASTERN END OF THE JIDDI PASS.

THE ISRAELI NEGOTIATORS BELIEVE THAT AN AMERICAN PRESENCE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLY MORE STABLE AND MORE RELIABLE THAN A UN FORCE IS APT TO BE AT TIMES OF CRISIS--ALTHOUGH, OF COURSE, THERE IS NO WISH TO DISPENSE WITH UNEF AS THE POLICING FORCE OF THE BUFFER ZONE--A ROLE WHICH THE UNITED WOULD BE UNWILLING TO TAKE ON.

FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON, IT IS UNDERSTOOD, FIRST RAISED THE POSSIBILITY OF A UNITED STATES INVOLVEMENT IN THE PEACEKEEPING EFFORT BACK IN THE SUMMER OF 1974 WHEN THE INTERIM TALKS WERE TENTATIVELY LAUNCHED. HIS PROPOSAL WAS FOR AN AMERICAN POLICING FORCE--AND THIS MET WITH ONLY LUKEWARM ENTHUSIASM IN WASHINGTON. MR. ALLON HAS RETURNED TO THE IDEA, IN VARIOUS FORMS, SEVERAL TIMES IN THE COURSE OF THE PAST YEAR.

THE ISRAELI HOLD ON THE EASTERN APPROACHES OF THE PASSES WILL INCLUDE, IT IS LEARN, JEBEL JIDDI, THE COMMANDING HEIGHT BETWEEN THE ENTRANCES OF THE TWO PASSES.

AT THE MORNING CABINET SESSION YESTERDAY, FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON REVIEWED THE MOSLEM FOREIGN MINISTERS' DECISION TO PRESS FOR ISRAEL'S SUSPENSION FROM THE UN AND WARNED THAT THE MOSLEM BLOC WOULD TRY TO PERSUADE THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN LIMA NEXT MONTH TO ADOPT THE SAME DECISION. ISRAEL WAS RALLYING ITS FRIENDS IN THE THIRD WORLD AND IN EUROPE TO STAND FIRM AGAINST THE MOSLEM EFFORT, AND INITIAL REACTIONS FROM AMONG THE VETERAN UN MEMBER-STATES WAS NOT DISCOURAGING, MR ALLON REPORTED.

21 JUL 1033Z TEF/MC